

P-407, 421, 430, 405, 426/CI-90-440 ORDER ALLOWING TIME EXTENSION

BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Darrel L. Peterson
Cynthia A. Kitlinski
Norma McKanna
Robert J. O'Keefe
Patrice M. Vick

Chair
Commissioner
Commissioner
Commissioner
Commissioner

In the Matter of a Commission
Investigation into Extended Area
Service between New Germany and
the Minneapolis/St. Paul
Metropolitan Calling Area

ISSUE DATE: December 17, 1990

DOCKET NO. P-407, 421, 430, 405,
426/CI-90-440

ORDER ALLOWING TIME EXTENSION

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

On April 27, 1990, the Minnesota legislature enacted legislation regulating the installation of extended area service (EAS) in Minnesota. The legislation specifies the circumstances under which the expansion of the Minneapolis/St. Paul metropolitan extended area telephone service is required. Minn. Stat. § 237.161 (1990).

On August 6, 1990, the Commission issued its ORDER INITIATING INVESTIGATION in the current docket. In that Order, the Commission noted that New Germany, among other exchanges, had a central office located within the seven county metropolitan area but did not currently have EAS. Although New Germany had not petitioned for metropolitan EAS, the Commission on its own initiative ordered an investigation into the possible expansion of EAS between New Germany and the metropolitan calling area. In its August 6 Order the Commission directed Contel of Minnesota, Inc., which serves the New Germany exchange, and the telephone companies which serve the metropolitan calling area to file cost studies and proposed rates for EAS between New Germany and the metropolitan calling area.

On September 20, 1990, the telephone companies filed cost studies and proposed rates for New Germany metro EAS.

On November 26, 1990 and December 4, 1990, the Department of Public Service (the Department) filed requests for an extension of their 45 day comment period from November 26, 1990 until December 17, 1990. The Department stated that it would need the time extension to assess the updated cost and rate filings and to file a complete Report and Recommendation.

The Commission met to consider the matter on December 4, 1990.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

The Commission finds that the Department's request for an extension of time is reasonable and should be granted. The reasons for the request are sound. The amount of time sought is reasonable. Neither the public interest nor any party's interests will be prejudiced by the delay.

The extension will be granted.

ORDER

1. The Department is granted an extension of time until December 17, 1990 to file a report and recommendation in the above-captioned matter.
2. Parties may file comments in response to the Department's report and recommendation through January 7, 1991.
3. This Order shall become effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Richard R. Lancaster
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)